

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

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STATES TO RECEIVE MORE THAN \$13 MILLION IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS

Distribution of more than \$13 million in Federal aid funds to the 50 States, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for wildlife restoration was announced today by Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel.

This supplements an apportionment of \$18,000,000 made in June, bringing the total for fiscal year 1970 to a record \$31,675,000. The previous high was \$30,320,000 in fiscal year 1969.

These Federal monies come from the 11 percent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition. The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937, popularly known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, makes the excise taxes collected available to the Department of the Interior.

Distribution is made to the States using a formula based on area of the State and the number of paid hunting license holders. Since 1937, nearly \$387 million has been provided to the States for land acquisition, research, and development projects.

Under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration program, many vital conservation projects approved by the Interior Department are conducted by State fish and game agencies. States are reimbursed with Federal funds, up to 75 percent of total project costs.

Much of this total has been used for live-trapping game for restocking, habitat improvement, building roads and trails for access to recreation sites, managing public hunts and game research.

Game research includes surveys, inventories, and animal behavior and other biological studies that improve game management for sportsmen and others who enjoy wildlife. One of the most important continuing uses of this fund by the States is the acquisition of land for public hunting.

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Apportionment for Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration

Fiscal Year 1970

Alabama	\$ 614,979
Alaska	1,582,250
Arizona	724,358
Arkansas	539,569
California	1,549,714
Colorado	768,104
Connecticut	158,225
Delaware	158,225
Florida	517,233
Georgia	617,680
Hawaii	158,225
Idaho	612,244
Illinois	771,745
Indiana	617,357
Iowa	588,253
Kansas	635,425
Kentucky	454,783
Louisiana	559,768
Maine	369,111
Maryland	242,818
Massachusetts	178,308
Michigan	1,188,370
Minnesota	893,551
Mississippi	480,616
Missouri	774,918
Montana	896,041
Nebraska	585,509
Nevada	620,053
New Hampshire	158,225
New Jersey	219,568
New Mexico	721,809
New York	974,556
North Carolina	698,988
North Dakota	439,926
Ohio	693,494
Oklahoma	546,850
Oregon	845,685
Pennsylvania	1,280,102
Rhode Island	158,225
South Carolina	365,294
South Dakota	540,059
Tennessee	632,561
Texas	1,582,250
Utah	631,139
Vermont	191,749
Virginia	577,980
Washington	668,162
West Virginia	347,842
Wisconsin	874,774
Wyoming	638,330
Guam	10,000
Puerto Rico	10,000
Virgin Islands	10,000
Total	\$31,675,000